(c) Statement giving reasons for the dalay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. (Placed in Libarary *See* No LT 163&97]

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): I have to inform Members that a telegram has been received from Shri Bhagaban Majhi stating that he is suffering from fever since the 18th February, 1997, and therefore, he is unable to attend the sittings of the first part of the Budget session of the Rajya Sabha, that is, from the 20th February, 1997 to 21st March, 1997. He has, therefore, requested for grant of Leave of Absence accordingly.

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Shri Bhagaban Majhi for remaining absent from the sittings of the House from the 20th February, 1997 to 21st March, 1997?

(No Hon. Member dissented.)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Permission to remain absent is granted. .

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): Our good wishes are with him for his early recovery.

REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS

SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Communications:—

(i) Sixth Report on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the First Report on Demands for Grants (1996-97) relating to Department of Post.

(ii) Seventh Report on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Second Report on Demands for Grants (1996-97) relating to Department of Telecommunications.

(iii) Eighth Report on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report on Demands for Grants (1996-97) and relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

PRESENTATION OF PETITION

श्री ओमप्रकाश कोहली(दिल्ली) **:** महोदय देश में विकलांग व्यक्तियों की दशा के बारे में श्री पी.जे. थामस द्वारा हस्ताक्षित याचिका प्रस्तुत करता हूं ।

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): Sir, I move the following Motion:—

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the Lok Sabha for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1997 and ending on the 30th April, 1998 and do proceed to elect in such manner as the Chairman may direct, seven Members from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.